

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 0504

FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PGOV, TU, OVIP(VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJ: SECVISIT TURKEY: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON PRESIDENT KORUTURK,
GOVERNMENT MINISTERS AND MFA SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: A) ANKARA 0485, B) ANKARA 0492

1. SEPTELS PROVIDE BIO INFO ON PRIMIN AND FONMIN.FOLLOWING
IS BACKGROUND ON OTHER SENIOR OFFICIALS YOU WILL MEET IN
THE ORDER YOU WILL MEET THEM

2. MFA SECRETARY GENERAL SUKRU ELEKDAG (PRONOUNCED
SHOO-KROO EH-LEK-DAH).

CAREER DIPLOMAT SUKRU ELEKDAG, 53, ASSUMED HS PRESENT
POST AS NUMBER TWO IN THE MFA IN SEPTEMBER 1974 AND HAS
SINCE BEEN THE DRIVING FORCE IN THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
BUREAUCRACY, MAINTINING CONTINUITY THROUGH FIVE GOVERNMENTS.

3. TURHAN FEYZIOGLU, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
OF STATE (PRONOUNCED TOOR-HAN FAY-ZEE-OH-LOU).

FEYZIOGLU, 55, ONE OF THREE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTERS
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CHAIRS THE INTER-MINISTERIAL CYPRUS COORDINATING COMMITTEE.
CHAIRMAN OF THE SMALL REPUBLICAN RELIANCE PARTY AND A
FORMER POLITICAL SCIENCE PROFESSOR, FEYZIOGLU HAS
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND IS COMMITTED TO THE WESTERN
ORIENTATION OF TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY. URBANE, WITTY,
FLUENT IN ENGLISH.

4. FARUK SUKAN, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF STATE (PRONOUNCED FAR-OOK SOO-KAHN).

SUKAN, 56, IS A LONG-TIME CONSERVATIVE POLITICAN. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY'S NATIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEE SINCE 1971 AND HAS TRAVELLED TO NEW YORK FREQUENTLY ON TURKISH UN DELEGATIONS. NO ENGLISH.

5. HASAN ESAT ISIK, MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (PRONOUNCED HA-SAHN EH-SAHT UH-SHOOK).

A FORMER CAREER DIPLOMAT AND FOREIGN MINISTER (1965), ISIK WAS MINISTER OF DEFENSE IN THE TWO PREVIOUS ECEVIT GOVERNMENTS. CHAUVINISTIC TOWARDS GREECE AND TAKES A HARD LINE ON THE AEGEAN. HAS BEEN CRITICAL OF WHAT HE SEES AS A U.S. "TILT" TOWARD GREECE. SPEAKS ENGLISH WELL.

6. ORHAN ALP, MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY (PRONOUNCED OR-HAN AHLP).

ALP, 57, WHOSE RESIGNATION FROM DEMIREL'S JUSTICE PARTY LAST JULY WAS THE FIRST IN A SERIES THAT BROUGHT DOWN THE LAST GOVERNMENT, APPARENTLY REPRESENTS THE TEN INDEPENDENT MINISTERS IN FOREIGN POLICY MATTERS. NOT VERY IMPRESSIVE, BUT AN EXPERIENCED, PRO-U.S. POLITICAN. SPEAKS ENGLISH.
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7. FAHRI KORUTURK, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY (PRONOUNCED FAH-REE KO-ROO-TOORK).

NOW 75, FORMER ADMIRAL, AMBASSADOR, AND APPOINTIVE SENATOR. THE PRESIDENT'S MAJOR POLITICAL FUNCTION IS DESIGNATING THE PRIME MINISTER. KORUTURK HAS, HOWEVER, OFTEN USED HIS PRESTIGE TO SUPPORT ATATURKIST PRINCIPLES AND DEMOCRACY. HE APPEARS PLEASED WITH THE NEW GOVERNMENT. FUNDAMENTALLY PRO-WESTERN, CONCERNED OVER THE DETERIORATION OF US-TURKISH RELATIONS, FAVORS DEDUCING TENSIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE SOVIET UNION. SUFFERED A HEART ATTACK IN JANUARY 1974 AND IS CURRENTLY RECOVERING FROM A NERVE PROBLEM IN HIS LEG. A PROUD MAN OF QUIET DIGNITY. SPEAKS FAIR ENGLISH, BUT YOUR CONVERSATION WILL BE THROUGH AN INTERPRETER.
SPIERS

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